

Livable Delaware Advisory Council
February 15, 2007
Meeting Summary

Members Present:

Michael Scuse, Department of Agriculture, Acting Chair
Judy McKinney-Cherry, DEDO
John Hughes, DNREC
Lee Ann Walling representing Mark Brainard
Ralph Reeb representing Carolann Wicks, DelDOT
Robert McLeod, Kent County
Ken Murphy, NCC Civic League
Steven Bomberger, Homebuilder Association of Delaware
Marty Ross, Public member
Don Mulrine, League of Local Governments
Joe DiPinto, City of Wilmington
David Baker, Sussex County
Jeff Bullock, New Castle County
Jen Gochenaour, Delaware Nature Society
Paul Morrill, Historic Preservation

Others Present:

Connie Holland, OSPC
David Edgell, OSPC
Bryan Hall, OSPC
Herb Inden, OSPC
Mike Mahaffie, OSPC
Laura Simmons, OSPC
Diane Dukes, OSPC
Dorothy Morris, OSPC
Renee Dixon, OMB
Albert Shields, Office of Lt. Governor
Charlie Baker, New Castle County
DJ Guthrie, New Castle County Land Use
Vicky Walsh, DSHA
Karen Horton, DSHA
Gary Warren, New Castle County Farm Bureau
Ed Justice, Delaware Farm Bureau
Richard Kautz, Sussex County Planning
Bob Zimmerman, DNREC
Mike Petit de Mange, Kent County Planning
J. Kelly Crumpley, Kent County Planning
Bill Powers, New Castle County

On behalf of Lt. Governor Carney, Secretary Scuse called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Secretary Scuse welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves. Secretary Scuse asked the members to review the January 30, 2007 minutes. Director Cherry made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Mulrine

seconded. The motion to approve the minutes from the January 30, 2007 meeting was approved.

New Castle County Comprehensive Plan

Connie Holland commented that overall she is very pleased with the New Castle County Comprehensive Plan. Ms. Holland reviewed the PLUS response letter that was sent to the County. There are two certification issues which are Source Water Protection and SRAs. Ms. Holland also noted that the TDR policy outlined within the updated New Castle County comprehensive plan is extremely important. Connie stated that she is willing to offer the assistance of any State agency to assist New Castle County.

Secretary Scuse commented positively on the emphasis on agriculture business and economic development.

Ms. Holland stated that the Office of State Planning has 20 working days to reply with State PLUS comments and then the County will consider revising the plan per our comments. Once the certification issues are resolved, the County will resubmit the plan to the Office of State Planning and will note the changes made to the plan per our comments.

Charlie Baker commented that he appreciates the hard work from the staff. He stated that they are continuing to take public comment and then will get back to the State with the revision approved by council.

Ms. Holland stated that since the two certification issues were from DNREC, Secretary Hughes need to approve the changes made to satisfy the certification issues.

Secretary Hughes stated that he sees nothing in the plan that can't be worked through quickly and gives full approval. Secretary Hughes also stated that New Castle County has his agency at their disposal.

Jeff Bullock commented that his is very proud and that this is a huge step for New Castle County. Mr. Bullock also commented that this plan is a living document and a realistic vision for New Castle County.

Secretary Scuse passed along Lt. Governor Carney's comments that urged DNREC to look at the comments and work with New Castle County on them, especially the buffering requirement.

A motion was made by Don Mulrine, seconded by Ken Murphy The Governors Advisory Committee on Planning Issues recommends certification of the New Castle County Comprehensive per compliance with the two certification issues described in the PLUS letter from State Planning dated 2-13-07 and any amendments agreed upon with the State Planning Office.

The Office of State Planning should be the lead agency to ensure that all certification issues have been addressed before forwarding the plan to the Governor with the LDAC recommendation.

Motion passed; Mr. Ross opposed the motion.

Kent County Comprehensive Plan

Kent County is currently in the process of updating the County Comprehensive Plan and sent a letter to Connie Holland requesting a deadline extension due to the moratorium on major subdivision plan submittals that is scheduled to be in effect until October 16, 2007. Kent County's plan is to have the Comprehensive Plan ready for a public hearing in July 2007.

A motion was made by Paul Morrill, seconded by John Hughes to extend the Kent County Comprehensive Plan deadline to no later than October 30, 2007.

Motion passed.

With no further business to discuss, Director Cherry made a motion; seconded by Don Mulrine to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.